

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/903,726	HARTEL ET AL.
	Examiner Tuan A. Vu	Art Unit 2193

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 5/23/2005.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9, 14-22, and 27-29 (now renumbered 1-21).
3. The drawings filed on 10 September 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 20050615.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the Applicant's response filed 5/23/2005.

As indicated in Applicant's response, claims 10-13 and 23-26 have been canceled.

Claims 1-9, 14-22, and 27-29 are pending in the office action.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Cathrine Kinslow, reg. # 51886 on 6/15/05.

The application has been amended as follows.

In the CLAIMS:

Claim 14:

An apparatus for providing metadata comprising:

a processor;

first implementation means for providing an object descriptor interface;

first creation means for creating a object descriptor class for an object using the object descriptor interface;

first exposing means for using methods defined by the object descriptor interface to identify a property of the object;

second implementation means for providing a property descriptor interface;

second creation means for creating a property descriptor class using the property descriptor interface; and

second exposing means for using methods defined by the property descriptor interface to obtain metadata associated with the identified property.

Claim 27:

A ~~computer program product~~, in a computer readable medium,

for defining metadata, comprising having stored thereon:

instructions for providing an object descriptor interface;

instructions for creating an object descriptor class for an object using the object descriptor interface;

instructions for using methods defined by the object descriptor interface to identify a property of the object;

instructions for providing a property descriptor interface;

instructions for creating a property descriptor class using the property descriptor interface; and

instructions for using methods defined by the property descriptor interface to obtain metadata associated with the identified property.

EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

3. Claims 1-9, 14-22, and 27-29 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art taken separately or jointly does not suggest or teach the following features.

A method, an apparatus and computer readable medium with instructions for respectively providing or defining metadata, comprising steps, means or instructions for (i) creating an object descriptor interface; creating a object descriptor class using the object descriptor interface; (ii) using methods defined therein to identify a property of the object; (iii) providing a property descriptor interface and creating a property descriptor class using this property descriptor interface; and (iv) using methods defined therein to obtain metadata associated with the identified property, as recited in claims 1, 14 and 27.

JDK 1.1.8, “Version 1.1.8 of Java Platform API Specification”, discloses defining methods in a object descriptor interface to identify a property of one object, creating a property descriptor class for the property of one object; and defining methods for the property descriptor interface associated with the property of one object; but fails to teach or suggest a same object property descriptor associated with a same object descriptor from using the descriptor interfaces in the exact sequence to get metadata as recited steps (i) through (iv) from above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan A Vu whose telephone number is (272) 272-3735. The examiner can normally be reached on 8AM-4:30PM/Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kakali Chaki can be reached on (571)272-3719.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-3735 (for non-official correspondence – please consult Examiner before using) or 703-872-9306 (for official correspondence) or redirected to customer service at 571-272-3609.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist: 571-272-2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

VAT
June 15, 2005

Chaki
KAKALI CHAKI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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